

# EXHIBIT C

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

IN RE: SOCIAL MEDIA ADOLESCENT  
ADDICTION/PERSONAL INJURY  
PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION

Case No. 4:22-MD-03047-YGR  
MDL No. 3047

**[PROPOSED] PROTECTIVE ORDER**

\_\_\_\_\_  
This Document Relates to:

ALL ACTIONS

**1. PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS**

Disclosure and discovery activity in this Action are likely to involve production of confidential, proprietary, trade secret, commercially sensitive, personal health and/or educational, and/or other private information for which special protection from public disclosure and from use for any purpose other than prosecuting this Action is warranted. Accordingly, the Parties hereby stipulate to and petition the Court to enter the following Protective Order. The Parties acknowledge that this Protective Order does not confer blanket protections on all disclosures or responses to discovery and that the protection it affords from public disclosure and use extends only to the limited information or items that are entitled to confidential treatment under the applicable legal principles. Liaison Counsel for Plaintiffs and Defendants are responsible for ensuring that all Parties added to this Action after this Protective Order is entered are informed of their obligations hereunder. Unless otherwise stated, all periods of time provided for in this Protective Order are calculated as calendar days.

**2. DEFINITIONS**

2.1 Action: Action shall refer to the actions currently included in MDL No. 3047, any other action hereafter added or transferred to MDL No. 3047, and all actions later remanded to their respective transferor courts from MDL No. 3047.

2.2 Challenging Party: a Party or Non-Party that challenges the designation or non-designation of Disclosure or Discovery Material under this Protective Order.

1           2.3 Competitive Decision-Making: the action or process of making a business decision  
2 or resolving a non-legal question relating to a competitor, potential competitor, customer, or  
3 distribution partner regarding contracts, marketing, pricing, service development or design,  
4 product or service offering, research and development, mergers and acquisitions, or licensing,  
5 acquisition, funding or enforcement of intellectual property. It does not include legal advice  
6 provided in connection with litigation, potential litigation, or regulatory matters, nor does it  
7 include work performed as part of a trial team or to keep management advised on the progress or  
8 status of litigation, potential litigation, or regulatory matters.

9           2.4 “CONFIDENTIAL” Protected Material: Disclosure or Discovery Material that  
10 would qualify for protection under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c).

11           2.5 Counsel (without qualifier): Outside Counsel and House Counsel (as well as their  
12 support staff).

13           2.6 Designated House Counsel: House Counsel who have responsibility for managing  
14 this action and who seek access to “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL (COMPETITOR)” information in  
15 this matter.

16           2.7 Designating Party: a Party or Non-Party that designates Disclosure or Discovery  
17 Material that it produces in disclosures or in responses to discovery as “CONFIDENTIAL” or  
18 “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL (COMPETITOR).”

19           2.8 Disclosure or Discovery Material: all items or information, regardless of the  
20 medium or manner in which it is generated, stored, or maintained (including, among other things,  
21 testimony, transcripts, and tangible things), that are produced or generated in disclosures or  
22 responses to discovery in this matter.

23           2.9 Expert: a person with specialized knowledge or experience in a matter pertinent to  
24 this Action who (1) has been retained by a Party or its counsel to serve as an expert witness or as a  
25 consultant in this Action, (2) is not a current employee of a Party or of a Party’s competitor, and  
26 (3) at the time of retention, is not anticipated to become an employee of a Party or of a Party’s  
27 competitor.  
28

1           2.10 “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL (COMPETITOR)” Protected Material: Protected  
2 Material the disclosure of which to another Party or Non-Party would create a substantial risk of  
3 serious harm that could not be avoided by less restrictive means.

4           2.11 House Counsel: attorneys who are employees of a Party to this Action. House  
5 Counsel does not include Outside Counsel or any other outside counsel.

6           2.12 Insurance Representative: An employee or outside counsel of a liability insurer  
7 who may provide coverage to a Defendant in this Action, who has a need to know  
8 “CONFIDENTIAL” Protected Material in order to fulfill a duty to defend or evaluate a potential  
9 coverage obligation, and whose need to know “CONFIDENTIAL” Protected Material cannot be  
10 satisfied by disclosure to a previously authorized Insurance Representative. For the avoidance of  
11 doubt, an Insurance Representative cannot use Protected Material for any other purpose, including  
12 but not limited to use in any other litigation or arbitration proceeding.

13           2.13 Non-Party: any natural person, partnership, corporation, association, or other legal  
14 entity not named as a Party to this Action.

15           2.14 Outside Counsel: attorneys, as well as their support staff to whom it is reasonably  
16 necessary to disclose the information for this Action (including but not limited to attorneys,  
17 paralegals, secretaries, law clerks, and investigators), who are not employees of a Party to this  
18 Action but are retained and have appeared in this Action to represent or advise a Party to this  
19 Action and who have signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” that is attached  
20 hereto as Exhibit A.

21           2.15 Party: any party to this Action, including all of its officers, directors, employees  
22 (including House Counsel), consultants, retained experts, and Outside Counsel (and their support  
23 staffs).

24           2.16 Producing Party: a Party or Non-Party that produces Disclosure or Discovery  
25 Material in this Action.

26           2.17 Professional Vendors: persons or entities that provide litigation support services  
27 (e.g., photocopying, videotaping, translating, preparing exhibits or demonstrations, and  
28

1 processing, organizing, storing, reviewing, categorizing, or retrieving data in any form or medium)  
 2 and their employees and subcontractors.

3 2.18 Protected Education Records (“PER”): has the meaning set forth under 20 U.S.C. §  
 4 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and includes but  
 5 is not limited to individually identifiable educational information.

6 2.19 Protected Health Information (“PHI”): has the meaning set forth in 45 C.F.R.  
 7 §§ 160.103 and 164.501, being part of the implementing regulations of the Health Insurance  
 8 Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, and includes but is not limited to individually  
 9 identifiable health information, including demographic information, relating to either (a) the past,  
 10 present, or future physical or mental condition of an individual; (b) the provision of health care to  
 11 an individual; or (c) the past, present, or future payment for health care provided to an individual  
 12 which identifies the individual or with respect to which there is a reasonable basis to believe the  
 13 information could be used to identify the individual.

14 2.20 Protected Material: any Disclosure or Discovery Material that is or may be  
 15 designated as “CONFIDENTIAL,” or as “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL (COMPETITOR).”

16 2.21 Receiving Party: a Party that receives Disclosure or Discovery Material from a  
 17 Producing Party.

### 18 **3. SCOPE**

19 3.1 The protections conferred by this Protective Order cover not only Protected  
 20 Material, but also (1) any information copied or extracted from Protected Material; (2) all copies,  
 21 excerpts, summaries, or compilations of Protected Material; and (3) any testimony, conversations,  
 22 or presentations by Parties or their Counsel that might reveal Protected Material.

23 3.2 The protections conferred by this Protective Order, however, do not cover the  
 24 following information: (a) any information that is in the public domain at the time of disclosure to  
 25 a Receiving Party or becomes part of the public domain after its disclosure to a Receiving Party as  
 26 a result of publication not involving a violation of this Protective Order or another court’s order,  
 27 including becoming part of the public record through trial or otherwise; and (b) any information  
 28 known to the Receiving Party prior to the disclosure or obtained by the Receiving Party after the

disclosure from a source who obtained the information lawfully and under no obligation of confidentiality to the Designating Party. Any use of Protected Material at trial shall be governed by separate agreement or order.

#### **4. DURATION**

Even after final disposition of this Action, the confidentiality obligations imposed by this Protective Order remain in effect until a Designating Party agrees otherwise in writing or a court order otherwise directs. Final disposition shall be deemed to be the later of (1) dismissal of all claims and defenses in this Action, with or without prejudice; or (2) final judgment of the Action after the completion and exhaustion of all appeals, rehearings, remands, trials, or reviews, including the time limits for filing any motions or applications for extension of time pursuant to applicable law and the time limits for filing a petition for writ of certiorari to the Supreme Court of the United States if applicable. The Court shall retain jurisdiction to enforce or modify this Protective Order and to make further orders with respect to the use or confidentiality designations of Protected Material.

#### **5. DESIGNATING PROTECTED MATERIAL**

5.1 Exercise of Restraint and Care in Designating Material for Protection. Each Party or Non-Party that designates information or items for protection under this Protective Order must take care to limit any such designation to specific material that qualifies under the appropriate standards. To the extent it is practical to do so, the Designating Party must designate for protection only those parts of material, documents, items, information, or oral or written communications that qualify—so that other portions of the material, documents, items, information, or communications for which protection is not warranted are not swept unjustifiably within the ambit of this Protective Order. Absent such a designation, except as required any independent statutory or regulatory obligation, the Receiving Party shall have no obligation to treat the disclosed material, documents, items, or oral or written communications as “CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL (COMPETITOR)” unless and until notified pursuant to Section 5.7 of an inadvertent failure to designate.

1           5.2 Mass, indiscriminate, or routinized designations are prohibited. Designations that  
 2 are shown to be clearly unjustified or that have been made for an improper purpose (e.g., to  
 3 unnecessarily encumber or retard the case development process or to impose unnecessary  
 4 expenses and burdens on other parties) expose the Designating Party to sanctions.

5           5.3 If it comes to a Designating Party's attention that Disclosure or Discovery Material  
 6 that it designated for protection does not qualify for the protection initially asserted, that  
 7 Designating Party must promptly notify all other Parties that it is withdrawing or revising the  
 8 mistaken designation.

9           5.4 Manner and Timing of Designations. Except as otherwise provided in this  
 10 Protective Order (see, e.g., Section 5.5(c) below), or as otherwise stipulated or ordered, Disclosure  
 11 or Discovery Material that qualifies for protection under this Protective Order must be clearly so  
 12 designated before the material is disclosed or produced.

13           5.5 Designation in conformity with this Protective Order requires:

14           (a) For Protected Material in documentary form (e.g., paper or electronic  
 15 documents, but excluding transcripts of depositions or other pretrial or trial proceedings), that the  
 16 Producing Party affix the legend "CONFIDENTIAL" or "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL  
 17 (COMPETITOR)" to each page that contains Protected Material. If only a portion or portions of  
 18 the material on a page qualifies for protection, the Producing Party also must clearly identify the  
 19 protected portion(s) (e.g., by making appropriate markings in the margins), to the extent it is  
 20 practical to do so. For Protected Material that is produced in native electronic format, the  
 21 designation legend must be included in the file name of the native documents and on any related  
 22 imaged slipsheets when produced, and any Party when printing such Protected Material must affix  
 23 the designated legend to each page of the printed copy.

24           (b) Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Party or Non-Party that makes original  
 25 documents or materials available for inspection need not designate them for protection until after  
 26 the inspecting Party has indicated which material it would like copied and produced. During the  
 27 inspection and before the designation, all of the material made available for inspection shall be  
 28 treated in accordance with the rules applicable to "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL (COMPETITOR)"

1 information. After the inspecting Party has identified the documents it wants copied and produced,  
2 the Producing Party must determine which documents, or portions thereof, qualify for protection  
3 under this Protective Order. Then, before producing the specified documents, the Producing Party  
4 must affix the appropriate legend (“CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL  
5 (COMPETITOR)”) to each page that contains Protected Material. If only a portion or portions of  
6 the material on a page qualifies for protection, the Producing Party also must clearly identify the  
7 protected portion(s) (e.g., by making appropriate markings in the margins), to the extent it is  
8 practical to do so.

9 (c) For testimony given in deposition, that the Designating Party designate any  
10 testimony or exhibits “CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL (COMPETITOR)”  
11 either on the record before the close of the deposition or in writing on or before the later of thirty  
12 days after receipt of the final transcript or the date by which any review by the witness and  
13 corrections to the transcript are to be completed under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 30. If any  
14 portion of a deposition is designated, the transcript shall be labeled with the appropriate legend in  
15 an obvious manner on the title page, and the title page must be followed by a list of all pages that  
16 have been designated as Protected Material and the level of protection being asserted by the  
17 Designating Party. If any portion of a videotaped deposition is designated, the original and all  
18 copies of any videotape, DVD, or other media container shall be labeled with the appropriate  
19 legend in an obvious manner. The Party initiating the deposition shall inform the court reporter of  
20 these requirements.

21 Pending designation as set forth above, the entire transcript, including exhibits,  
22 shall be treated in accordance with the rules applicable to “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL  
23 (COMPETITOR)” information. If no designation is made within the time period above, the  
24 transcript shall be considered not to contain any “CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY  
25 CONFIDENTIAL (COMPETITOR)” information. The foregoing provision is expressly subject to  
26 the restrictions set forth in Section 5.6 below.

27 (d) For Protected Material produced in some form other than documentary and  
28 for any other tangible items, that the Producing Party affix in a prominent place on the exterior of



1 the container or containers in which the Protected Material is produced or stored the legend  
 2 “CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL (COMPETITOR).” If only a portion or  
 3 portions of the information or item warrant protection, the Producing Party, to the extent  
 4 practicable, shall identify the protected portion(s) and specify the level of protection being  
 5 asserted.

6 5.6 Any Protected Material that is used in the taking of a deposition shall remain  
 7 subject to the provisions of this Protective Order, along with the transcript pages and videotape of  
 8 the deposition testimony dealing with such Protected Material. The use of Protected Material as an  
 9 exhibit at a deposition or other pretrial proceeding will not in any way affect its designation as  
 10 Protected Material. Counsel for any Producing Party shall have the right to exclude from oral  
 11 depositions, other than the deponent and deponent’s counsel, any person who is not authorized by  
 12 this Protective Order to receive or access Protected Material based on the designation of such  
 13 Protected Material. Such right of exclusion shall be applicable only during periods of examination  
 14 or testimony regarding such Protected Material. Parties shall give other Parties notice if they  
 15 reasonably expect a deposition or other pretrial proceeding to include Protected Material so that  
 16 the other Parties can ensure that only authorized individuals who have signed the  
 17 “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A) are present at those proceedings.

18 5.7 Failures to Designate. If timely corrected, an inadvertent failure to designate  
 19 qualified Disclosure or Discovery Material does not, standing alone, waive the Designating  
 20 Party’s right to secure protection under this Protective Order for such material. Upon timely  
 21 correction of a designation, the Receiving Party must make reasonable efforts to assure that the  
 22 material is treated in accordance with the provisions of this Protective Order and shall return or  
 23 destroy, at the Designating Party’s option, all qualified information or items that were not  
 24 designated properly.

## 25 **6. CHALLENGING CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATIONS**

26 6.1 Timing of Challenges. Any Party or Non-Party may challenge a designation of  
 27 confidentiality at any time. Unless a prompt challenge to a Designating Party’s confidentiality  
 28 designation is necessary to avoid foreseeable, substantial unfairness, unnecessary economic

1 burdens, or a significant disruption or delay of this Action, a Party does not waive its right to  
2 challenge a confidentiality designation by electing not to mount a challenge promptly after the  
3 original designation is disclosed.

4         6.2 Meet and Confer. The Challenging Party shall initiate the dispute resolution  
5 process by providing written notice of each designation it is challenging and describing the basis  
6 for each challenge. To avoid ambiguity as to whether a challenge has been made, the written  
7 notice must recite that the challenge to confidentiality is being made in accordance with this  
8 specific paragraph of the Protective Order. The parties shall attempt to resolve each challenge in  
9 good faith and must begin the process by conferring directly (in voice-to-voice dialogue; other  
10 forms of communication are not sufficient) within fourteen days of the date of service of notice. In  
11 conferring, the Challenging Party must explain the basis for its belief that the confidentiality  
12 designation was not proper and must give the Designating Party an opportunity to review the  
13 designated material, to reconsider the circumstances, and, if no change in designation is offered, to  
14 explain the basis for the chosen designation. A Challenging Party may proceed to the next stage of  
15 the challenge process only if it has engaged in this meet-and-confer process first or establishes that  
16 the Designating Party is unwilling to participate in the meet-and-confer process in a timely  
17 manner.

18         6.3 Judicial Intervention. If the Parties cannot resolve a challenge without court  
19 intervention, the Designating Party may file and serve a motion to retain the confidentiality  
20 designation under Civil Local Rule 7 (and in compliance with Civil Local Rule 79-5, if applicable)  
21 within 21 days of the initial notice or within 14 days of the Parties agreeing that the meet and  
22 confer process will not resolve their dispute, whichever is earlier. Each such motion must be  
23 accompanied by a competent declaration affirming that the movant has complied with the meet  
24 and confer requirements imposed in the preceding paragraph. Failure by the Designating Party to  
25 make such a motion including the required declaration within the specified time period shall  
26 automatically waive the confidentiality designation for each challenged designation. In addition,  
27 the Challenging Party may file a motion challenging a confidentiality designation at any time if  
28 there is good cause for doing so, including a challenge to the designation of a deposition transcript

1 or any portions thereof. Any motion brought pursuant to this provision must be accompanied by a  
 2 competent declaration affirming that the movant has complied with the meet and confer  
 3 requirements imposed by the preceding paragraph.

4 6.4 The burden of persuasion in any such challenge proceeding shall be on the  
 5 Designating Party. Frivolous challenges, and those made for an improper purpose (e.g., to harass  
 6 or impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties) may expose the Challenging Party  
 7 to sanctions. Unless the Designating Party has waived the confidentiality designation by failing to  
 8 file a motion to retain confidentiality as described above, all Parties shall continue to afford the  
 9 material in question the level of protection to which it is entitled under the Producing Party's  
 10 designation until the Court rules on the challenge.

## 11 **7. ACCESS TO AND USE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL**

12 7.1 Basic Principles. A Receiving Party may use Protected Material in connection with  
 13 this Action only for prosecuting, defending, or attempting to settle this Action. Protected Material  
 14 may be disclosed only to the categories of persons and under the conditions described in this  
 15 Protective Order.

16 Protected Material must be stored and maintained by a Receiving Party at a location and in  
 17 a secure manner that ensures that access is limited to the persons authorized under this Order.  
 18 When this Action has been terminated, a Receiving Party must comply with the provisions of  
 19 Section 13 below (FINAL DISPOSITION).

20 7.2 Pre-Trial Disclosure of "CONFIDENTIAL" Protected Material. Unless otherwise  
 21 ordered by the Court or permitted in writing by the Designating Party, a Receiving Party may  
 22 disclose any information or item designated "CONFIDENTIAL" only to:

- 23 (a) the Receiving Party's Outside Counsel;
- 24 (b) Insurance Representatives to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for  
 25 this Action, consistent with the restrictions set forth in Sections 2.12, 7.7, and 8, and who have  
 26 executed the "Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound" (Exhibit A);

1 (c) the Receiving Party, or the officers, directors, and employees (including  
2 House Counsel) of the Receiving Party (if an entity) to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary  
3 for this Action;

4 (d) Experts (as defined in this Protective Order) of the Receiving Party to  
5 whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action and who have signed the  
6 “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

7 (e) the Court and its personnel;

8 (f) court reporters and their staff;

9 (g) professional jury or trial consultants and mock jurors or focus group  
10 members who have signed a confidentiality agreement, and Professional Vendors to whom  
11 disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action and whose representative has signed the  
12 “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

13 (h) during their depositions, witnesses in the Action to whom disclosure is  
14 reasonably necessary and who have signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound”  
15 (Exhibit A), unless otherwise agreed by the Designating Party or ordered by the court;

16 (i) any mediator who is assigned to hear this Action, and his or her staff, who  
17 have signed the “Acknowledgement and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

18 (j) the author or recipient of a document containing the Protected Material; and

19 (k) any custodian or other person who otherwise possessed or knew the  
20 information contained in the Protected Material.

21 7.3 Any party producing or disclosing any PHI or PER as defined herein will designate  
22 it “CONFIDENTIAL” under this Protective Order.

23 7.4 Pre-Trial Disclosure of “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL (COMPETITOR)” Protected  
24 Material. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court or permitted in writing by the Designating Party,  
25 a Receiving Party may disclose any information or item designated “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL  
26 (COMPETITOR)” only to:

27 (a) the Receiving Party’s Outside Counsel;

(b) Up to two Designated House Counsel of a Party who (i) are not involved in Competitive Decision-Making at or on behalf of the Party, and (ii) have executed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

(c) Experts (as defined in this Protective Order) of the Receiving Party (1) to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action, (2) who have signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A), and (3) as to whom the procedures set forth in Section 7.6, below, have been followed;

(d) the Court and its personnel;

(e) court reporters and their staff;

(f) professional jury or trial consultants and mock jurors or focus group members who have signed a confidentiality agreement, and Professional Vendors to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this Action and whose representative has signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

(g) any mediator who is assigned to hear this Action, and his or her staff, who have signed the “Acknowledgement and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

(h) the author or recipient of a document containing the Protected Material;

(i) during their depositions, 30(b)(6) witnesses of the Designating Party to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary and who have signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A), provided that the material was produced by, originated with, or contains communications with or by the Party on whose behalf the witness is testifying; and

(j) any custodian or other person who otherwise possessed or knew the information contained in the Protected Material.

7.5 This Protective Order shall not be construed to restrict or limit the use, dissemination, or disposition by the Designating Party of its own information that it designates as “CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL (COMPETITOR).”

7.6 Procedures for Approving or Objecting to Disclosure of “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL (COMPETITOR)” Protected Material to Experts.

1 (a) Unless otherwise ordered by the Court or agreed to in writing by the  
2 Designating Party, a Party that seeks to disclose to an Expert (as defined in this Protective Order)  
3 any Protected Material, must first make a written request to the Designating Party that (1)  
4 identifies the general categories of “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL (COMPETITOR)” Protected  
5 Material that the Receiving Party seeks permission to disclose to the Expert, (2) sets forth the full  
6 name of the Expert and the city and state of his or her primary residence, (3) attaches a copy of the  
7 Expert’s current resume, (4) identifies the Expert’s current employer(s), (5) identifies each person  
8 or entity from whom the Expert has received compensation or funding for work in his or her areas  
9 of expertise or to whom the Expert has provided professional services, including in connection  
10 with a litigation, at any time during the preceding five years and the Party to the litigation for  
11 whom such work was done, (6) identifies (by name and number of the case, filing date, and  
12 location of court) any litigation in connection with which the Expert has offered expert testimony,  
13 including through a declaration, report, or testimony at a deposition or trial, during the preceding  
14 five years, and (7) identifies any patents or patent applications in which the Expert is identified as  
15 an inventor or applicant, is involved in prosecuting or maintaining, or has any pecuniary interest.

16 With regard to the information sought through part (5) of such an Expert disclosure,  
17 if the Expert believes any of this information is subject to a confidentiality obligation and/or non-  
18 disclosure agreement to a Non-Party, then the Expert should provide whatever information the  
19 Expert believes can be disclosed without violating any confidentiality agreements, including at a  
20 minimum disclosing the existence of the confidentiality agreement and/or nondisclosure agreement,  
21 and the Party seeking to disclose to the Expert must be available to meet and confer with the  
22 Designating Party regarding any such engagement.

23 (b) A Party that makes a request and provides the information specified in the  
24 preceding respective paragraphs may disclose the subject Protected Material to the identified  
25 Expert unless, within fourteen calendar days of delivering the request, the Party receives a written  
26 objection from the Designating Party. Any such objection must set forth in detail the grounds on  
27 which it is based.  
28

(c) A Party that receives a timely written objection must meet and confer with the Designating Party (through direct voice-to-voice dialogue) to try to resolve the matter by agreement within ten calendar days of the written objection. If no agreement is reached, the Party seeking to make the disclosure to the Expert may file a motion to resolve the discovery dispute under Civil Local Rule 7 (and in compliance with Civil Local Rule 79-5, if applicable), or otherwise in accordance with the Court's procedures for disputes relating to discovery matters and protective orders. Each such motion must be accompanied by a competent declaration affirming that the movant has complied with the meet and confer requirements imposed in this paragraph.

In any such proceeding, the Party opposing disclosure to the Expert bears the burden of proving that the risk of harm that the disclosure would entail (under the safeguards proposed) outweighs the Receiving Party's need to disclose the Protected Material to its Expert.

**7.7 Disclosure of Protected Material to Designated House Counsel or Insurance Representatives.** Any Protected Material provided to Designated House Counsel or Insurance Carriers pursuant to Sections 7.2(b) or 7.4(b) above, shall be provided through a secure, third-party platform and access shall be limited to read-only. Each Designated House Counsel or Insurance Representative shall be provided their own access credentials, which they shall not share with anyone else.

## **8. CHALLENGES TO DESIGNATED HOUSE COUNSEL OR INSURANCE REPRESENTATIVES**

**8.1** Unless otherwise ordered by the Court or agreed to in writing by the Designating Party, before disclosing any Protected Material designated as "CONFIDENTIAL" (in the case of Insurance Representatives) or "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL (COMPETITOR)" (in the case of a Party's Designated House Counsel), a Party must submit in writing to the Designating Party a written statement that: (1) sets forth the full name of each Designated House Counsel or Insurance Representative and the city and state of his or her residence, and (2) (for Insurance Representatives only) states the Insurance Representative's job title and a brief explanation regarding the individual's need to know the Confidential Information, and (3) (for Designated House Counsel only) describes each Designated House Counsel's primary job duties and responsibilities in

1 sufficient detail to determine if each Designated House Counsel is involved in Competitive  
 2 Decision-Making. If at any time, a Party decides to replace a Designated House Counsel or  
 3 Insurance Representative, the Party must submit a written statement regarding its proposed  
 4 replacement Designated House Counsel or Insurance Representative pursuant to this paragraph  
 5 and follow the procedures in Sections 8.2 and 8.3 below.

6 8.2 A Party may disclose Protected Material to its Designated House Counsel or to an  
 7 Insurance Representative in accordance with the provisions of this Protective Order unless the  
 8 Party receives a written objection from a Designating Party within 10 days of receiving notice as  
 9 described in Section 8.1. If the Party replaces any of its Designated House Counsel or Insurance  
 10 Representatives pursuant to Section 8.1, the Party may disclose Protected Material in accordance  
 11 with this Protective Order unless such Party receives a written objection from a Designating Party  
 12 within 10 days of receiving the Party's written statement. Any objection must set forth in detail  
 13 the grounds on which it is based.

14 8.3 If a Party receives a timely written objection, it must meet and confer with the  
 15 Designating Party to try to resolve the matter by agreement within 7 days of the written objection.  
 16 If no agreement is reached, the Designating Party will then have 7 additional days to comply with  
 17 the dispute resolution procedures in Magistrate Judge Hixson's Standing Order or to file a motion  
 18 with the Court objecting to the Designated House Counsel or Insurance Representative. The Party  
 19 will not disclose any "CONFIDENTIAL" designated Protected Material to Insurance  
 20 Representatives or "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL (COMPETITOR)" designated Protected Material  
 21 to the proffered Designated House Counsel pending resolution of the dispute.

## 22 **9. PROTECTED MATERIAL SUBPOENAED OR ORDERED PRODUCED IN** 23 **OTHER LITIGATION**

24 9.1 If a Party or other person or entity authorized to receive Protected Material under  
 25 Section 7 is served with a subpoena or court order in other litigation that compels disclosure of  
 26 any Protected Material that Party must:

27 (a) promptly notify in writing the Designating Party, including a copy of the  
 28 subpoena or court order;



(b) promptly notify in writing the party who caused the subpoena or order to issue in the other matter that some or all of the material covered by the subpoena or order is subject to this Protective Order. Such notification shall include a copy of this Protective Order; and

(c) cooperate with respect to all reasonable procedures sought to be pursued by the Designating Party whose Protected Material may be affected.

9.2 If the Designating Party timely seeks a protective order, the Party served with the subpoena or court order shall not produce any Protected Material before a determination by the court from which the subpoena or order issued, unless the Party has obtained the Designating Party's permission. The Designating Party shall bear the burden and expense of seeking protection in that court of its confidential material. Any agreement by a Designating Party that Protected Material may be produced in response to a subpoena or order does not in any way waive the protections this Protective Order provides against disclosure in any other matter, including this Action.

9.3 The provisions set forth herein are not intended to, and do not, restrict in any way the procedures set forth in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 45(d)(3) or (f). Nothing in these provisions should be construed as authorizing or encouraging a Receiving Party in this Action to disobey a lawful directive from another court.

#### **10. A NON-PARTY'S PROTECTED MATERIAL SOUGHT TO BE PRODUCED IN THIS ACTION**

10.1 The terms of this Protective Order are applicable to Protected Material produced by a Non-Party in this Action. Such Protected Material produced by Non-Parties in connection with this Action is protected by the remedies and relief provided by this Protective Order. Nothing in these provisions should be construed as prohibiting a Non-Party from seeking additional protections.

10.2 In the event that a Party is required, by a valid discovery request, to produce a Non-Party's confidential information in its possession, and the Party is subject to an agreement with the Non-Party not to produce the Non-Party's confidential information, then the Party shall

(a) promptly notify in writing the Requesting Party and the Non-Party that some or all of the information requested is subject to a confidentiality agreement with a Non-Party.

(b) promptly provide the Non-Party with a copy of the Protective Order in this litigation, the relevant discovery request(s), and a reasonably specific description of the information requested; and

(c) make the information requested available for inspection by the Non-Party.

10.3 If the Non-Party fails to object or seek a protective order from this Court within 14 days after receiving the notice and accompanying information, then the Receiving Party may produce the Non-Party's confidential information responsive to the discovery request. If the Non-Party timely seeks a protective order, the Receiving Party shall not produce any of the Non-Party's information in its possession or control that is subject to the confidentiality agreement with the Non-Party before a determination by the Court. Absent a court order to the contrary, the Non-Party shall bear the burden and expense of seeking protection in this Court of its Protected Material.

# **11. UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL**

11.1 If a Receiving Party learns that, by inadvertence or otherwise, it has disclosed Protected Material to any person or in any circumstance not authorized under this Protective Order, the Receiving Party must immediately:

(a) notify in writing the Designating Party of the unauthorized disclosure(s);

(b) use its best efforts to retrieve all unauthorized copies of the Protected Material;

(c) inform the person or persons to whom unauthorized disclosures were made of all the terms of this Protective Order; and

(d) request such person or persons to execute the "Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound" that is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

11.2 Nothing in these provisions limits or prohibits a Party or Non-Party from seeking any available legal or equitable remedies or relief for the unauthorized disclosure of its Protected

1 Material, including but not limited to attorneys' fees and costs associated with enforcing its rights  
2 under this Protective Order.

3 **12. MISCELLANEOUS**

4 12.1 Right to Further Relief. Nothing in this Protective Order abridges the right of any  
5 person or Party to seek its modification by the Court in the future.

6 12.2 Right to Assert Other Objections. By stipulating to the entry of this Protective  
7 Order no Party waives any right it otherwise would have to object to disclosing or producing any  
8 Disclosure or Discovery Material on any ground. Similarly, no Party waives any right to object on  
9 any ground to use in evidence of any of the Disclosure or Discovery Material covered by this  
10 Protective Order.

11 12.3 Filing Protected Material. Without written permission from the Designating Party  
12 or a Court order secured after appropriate notice to all interested parties, a Party may not file in the  
13 public record in this Action any Protected Material. A Party that seeks to file under seal any  
14 Protected Material must comply with Civil Local Rule 79-5, unless otherwise permitted or ordered  
15 by the Court, and Protected Material may only be filed under seal pursuant to a Court order  
16 authorizing the sealing of the specific Protected Material. If a Court determines that certain  
17 Protected Material may not be filed under seal, then the Receiving Party may file the information  
18 in the public record unless otherwise instructed by the Court.

19 12.4 Prosecution Bar. Absent written consent from the Designating Party, any  
20 individual bound by this agreement who receives access to "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL  
21 (COMPETITOR)" Protected Material must not be involved in the prosecution of patents or patent  
22 applications relating to the subject matter of the "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL (COMPETITOR)"  
23 Protected Material. For purposes of this paragraph, "prosecution" includes directly or indirectly  
24 drafting, amending, advising, or otherwise affecting the scope or maintenance of patent claims.  
25 Prosecution includes, for example, original prosecution, reissue, and reexamination and other post-  
26 grant proceedings. This Prosecution Bar begins when access to "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL  
27 (COMPETITOR)" Protected Material is first received by the individual and ends two (2) years  
28 after final disposition of this Action has expired, as defined by Section 4.

12.5 Privilege Logs. The Parties' agreement regarding the requirements for, timing, format, and content of privilege logs will be memorialized in a separate agreement.

12.6 Production of Privileged or Otherwise Protected Material. The Parties will request the Court to enter a separate order under Fed. R. Evid. 502(d) that governs the production of Disclosure and Discovery Material that is protected from discovery.

12.7 Source Code. This Protective Order is not intended to, and does not, govern the confidential treatment of Defendants' Source Code. The Parties agree to address the confidential treatment of Defendants' Source Code in a separate protective order.

12.8 Export Control. Except to the extent permitted by law and necessary for a litigation need, no Protected Material designated "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL (COMPETITOR)" may leave the territorial boundaries of the United States of America, be viewed outside the territorial limits of the United States of America, or be made available to any foreign national who is not (i) lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United States or (ii) identified as a protected individual under the Immigration and Naturalization Act (8 U.S.C. 1324b(a)(3)). At the time of production, a Disclosing Party will identify to the Receiving Party the Export Control Classification Numbers of the technical data contained in the Disclosing Party's "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL (COMPETITOR)" productions to the best of its knowledge, and the Receiving Party must ensure that it complies with all applicable export control regulations. This provision does not apply to Protected Material designated "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL (SOURCE CODE)," which shall be governed by a later order.

### 13. FINAL DISPOSITION

13.1 Within 60 days after the final disposition of this Action, as defined in Section 4, each Receiving Party must return all Protected Material to the Producing Party or destroy such material and provide written confirmation of destruction.

13.2 Notwithstanding the foregoing, any Receiving Party that is an insurance company with a potential coverage obligation with respect to this Action, or a Defendant that is pursuing insurance coverage for this Action, shall be permitted to retain copies of Protected Material subject to all requirements of this Protective Order and solely to the extent such retention is

1 necessary to comply with applicable law and its regulatory and contractual obligations or to pursue  
2 insurance coverage from its insurer; and such insurance company and Defendant shall return or  
3 destroy such Protected Material within 60 days of the end of the above-stated reasons or  
4 obligations to retain the Protected Material.

5 13.3 As used in this subdivision, “Protected Material” includes all copies, abstracts,  
6 compilations, summaries, and any other format reproducing or capturing any of the Protected  
7 Material. Whether the Protected Material is returned or destroyed, the Receiving Party must  
8 promptly thereafter submit a written certification to the Producing Party (and, if not the same  
9 person or entity, to the Designating Party) by the 60-day deadline that (1) identifies (by category,  
10 where appropriate) all of the Protected Material that was returned or destroyed and (2) affirms the  
11 Receiving Party has not retained any copies, abstracts, compilations, summaries, or any other  
12 format reproducing or capturing any of the Protected Material. Notwithstanding this provision,  
13 Counsel are entitled to retain an archival copy of all pleadings, motion papers, trial, deposition,  
14 and hearing transcripts, legal memoranda, correspondence, deposition and trial exhibits, expert  
15 reports, a Party’s own client records, attorney work product, and consultant and expert work  
16 product, even if such materials contain Protected Material. Any such archival copies that contain  
17 or constitute Protected Material remain subject to this Protective Order as set forth in Section 4  
18 (DURATION).

19 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

20  
21 Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAGISTRATE JUDGE THOMAS S. HIXSON

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

IN RE: *Social Media Adolescent  
Addiction/Personal Injury Products Liability  
Litigation*

) Case No. 4:22-MD-03047-YGR

) MDL No. 3047

) This document relates to:

) Honorable Yvonne Gonzalez Rogers

) ALL ACTIONS

**EXHIBIT A: ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND AGREEMENT TO BE BOUND**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ [print/type full name],  
of \_\_\_\_\_ [print/type full  
address], declare under penalty of perjury that I have read in its entirety and understand the  
Protective Order that was issued by the United States District Court for the Northern District of  
California in the case *In re: Social Media Adolescent Addiction/Personal Injury Products Liability  
Litigation*, No. 4:22-md-03047-YGR (N.D. Cal.). I agree to comply with and to be bound by all  
the terms of this Protective Order and any updates made thereto, and I understand and  
acknowledge that failure to so comply could expose me to sanctions and punishment. I solemnly  
promise that I will not disclose in any manner any information or item that is subject to this  
Protective Order to any person or entity except in strict compliance with the provisions of this  
Protective Order.

I further agree to submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the  
Northern District of California for the purpose of enforcing the terms of this Protective Order,  
even if such enforcement proceedings occur after termination of this Action.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

City and State where sworn and signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed name: \_\_\_\_\_